



## City of Bloomington Environmental Commission

The mission of the Environmental Commission is to advise the City of Bloomington on how its actions and policies may preserve and enhance the quality of Bloomington's environment, including the life-supporting processes that natural ecological systems provide to humans and other organisms.

### MINUTES

18 February 2016

City Hall McCloskey Room, 401 North Morton Street

#### 1. Introductions (7:00-7:05 p.m.)

Present: David Parkhurst, Chaim Julian, Mike Litwin, Alicia Reinersman, Chad Roeder, Dedaimia Whitney, Dave Debikey, Andy Marrs, Nick Kappas, Sarah Green, Kriste Lindberg, Linda Thompson

Absent: All of the commissioners were present.

Guests: Dave Rollo, Common Council; Ryan Conway, BFPC, CSL, BCL; Keller Masnyk, IU Media School, Jana McGree, BCOS; Eric Ost, citizen; Ramsay Harik, citizen

The EC has a new Eco Heroes intern, Sarah Green. Sarah is a first-year, MPA student at SPEA with experience in food security and grant-writing.

#### 2. Approval of minutes (7:05-7:06 p.m.)

Approved by voice vote: 9 yes; 1 abstention

#### 3. Public comment (7:06-7:15 p.m.)

Dave Rollo: The Common Council is considering a resolution in opposition to the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP). The TPP will limit home-rule and expand global trade, which will have negative implications for climate change. The Common Council plans to discuss the resolution in their session on March 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Motion to write a letter supporting the Common Council's resolution: unanimously approved by voice vote.

- Dave Rollo will send David P. the boilerplate. David will write a letter supporting the resolution and send it to the EC via email for input.

#### 4. Presentation: Phil Stevens, "Air Pollution" (7:15-7:45)

Phil Stevens did not attend the EC meeting.

#### 5. Committee reports & discussions via e-mail

#### 6. Old business (7:45-8:30 p.m.)

- A. Bucket list: In the bucket list meeting in January, each commissioner came with one action they wanted completed in Bloomington before they died. The commissioners ranked these ideas, and Dedaimia formed a list. This list helped shape the 2016 committee structure.

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B. Committee structure, names, and sign-up

The commissioners organized the following committee structure based on the bucket list meeting, extensive deliberations, and personal interests.

- The following draft committee structure will be revisited in the March EC meeting. In this meeting, the EC will also discuss the future of Lawns for Life.
- The 2016 Eco Heroes theme is biodiversity.

Draft of Committee Structure		
Topic Areas	Working Groups	Participants
Waste and Recycling	Recycling	Dave D., Dedaimia, Chad, Andy, Ramsay
	Curbside compost pick-up	
	MRF	
Land-use	ECPC	Nick, Linda, Chaim, David P., Mike
	Greenspace	
	Food and agriculture (food hub)	David P., Ryan, Andy
	Biodiversity and monarchs	Linda, Andy, Ramsay, Kriste, David P., Alicia
	Recreation	
Hazards	PCBs	David P. and Dedaimia
	Pesticides	
	Toxics reporting	
	Environmental monitoring	
Outreach	Commons charter	Ryan, Dedaimia, Dave D., Kriste, Andy
	LED light promotion (bulb exchange)	
Natural Resources	Air	
	Water Policy	Mike, Kriste, Nick
	Tree protection guidelines for contractors	Dedaimia and the Tree Commission
BEAP		Alicia, Andy, Linda, Nick, David P., Dedaimia
Eco Heroes		Sarah, Dedaimia, Linda, Alicia, Chad

7. New business (8:30-8:45)

A. Hospital site (soil testing):

The new IU hospital will be built on the old, IU driving range. The EC will research whether pesticides present in the soil negatively affect health facilities.

B. Twin Lakes Recreation Center:

The basement has a bad odor. Linda asked the Parks and Recreation manager about the smell and learned that they researched this problem and found nothing. Linda will take point on this issue.

8. Commissioner announcements (8:45-9:00 p.m.)

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Chad: The Bloomington Downtown Recycling Center entered a three-year agreement with Republic Services to streamline operations. The Recycling Center switched to co-mingled recycling to reduce overhead and labor. Chad worries about corrugated cardboard pricing. China stopped buying cardboard, and mills are closing around the US as a result.

Kriste: IU has a new Clean Water Act group.

Mike: Mike is on the Indiana Recycling Coalition listserv, and he received a message about an Indiana food waste compost initiative. The Indiana Recycling Coalition will hold stakeholder meeting phone call in mid-March, and Mike plans to participate. He will see if someone from this group can meet with the EC.

David P.: David told a story about how Dillman Wastewater Treatment facility wound up in its current location.

Nick: Nick thanked Dedaimia and Linda for supporting him in the Mayor's consideration for the Plan Commission.

## 9. Adjournment

### Meeting times

- A. Environmental Commission: 17 March, 7:00 p.m., McCloskey Room, City Hall
- B. Planning Committee: 3 March, 4:00 p.m., Lemon Room, City Hall
- C. Tree Commission: 16 March, 9:30 a.m., Rose Hill office
- D. BCOS meeting: 8 March, 6:00 p.m., McCloskey Room, City Hall
- E. EQUAS Com.: 9 March, 5:30-7:00 p.m., Nat Hill III Room, Courthouse
- F. ERAC: 13 April, 4:30 p.m., TBD
- G. MCSWMD Board: 10 March, 4:00 p.m., Nat Hill III Room, Courthouse
- H. MCSWMD CAC: 17 March, 5:15 p.m., McCloskey Room, City Hall